



Belfast Curling Club
www.belfastcurlingclub.org

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Notes from the President



Welcome back to the curling season. Hope you all are rested and ready to have some fun this winter. Ice is in, Maine-iac is behind us. Time to start curling.

You will notice a few spruce up items as you enter the club. The front hall has new green trim on the railing and the hall has fresh paint. The room at the bottom of the stairs has fresh paint and the concrete floor outside the locker rooms has new paint too. The Women's room has new flooring under the toilets and new carpeting and a new bench. The warm room has new AV system courtesy of Kay Sugahara from Ardsley Curling club. The back half of the roof was also stripped and redone over Common Ground fair weekend. I am sure to miss some people if I thank everyone but what the hell: Roofing group: Jeff Dutch, Mike Overton, Ham Niles, Dan Mara, Barbara Leonard, Corey Chase, Paul Lawrence, Paul's son, Joel Lee, Terry Sprague, Other National Guards guys, Ward Jarman, Donna Fancy, Pete Wood, Terry Kuzell, Scott Carson, Dick Fishbeck, Abbie Read, Carolyn Gaeiro. Inside projects: Jill Weber, Jim Boulier, Brenda Boulier, AV project: Jack Comart, Gus Szabronski, Bill Pieske, Sean Maguire, Owen Nelson, Mijin. Carpeting in Women's Locker Room: Mary Melton, Ray Melton. Thanks to all of you and the people I missed.

The ice committee needs help this year. If you want to learn to prep the ice please contact Jeff Dutch or me.

If you want to curl at other clubs this season check out the NBCA website (<http://www.nbcurling.com/calendar/>) and the GNCC website (<http://gncc.org/>). Talk to your team mates and opponents and you may find a group to go away with. Outreach is fun and brings people into our spiels through the year. —*Bart Read*



Capital Campaign Update

As we begin our curling season, we are starting our second and last year of our capital campaign. We have raised nearly \$80,000.00 towards replacing our existing ice plant! The focus of our second year of fund raising is to look for contributors outside the club. Our next effort is to host the

Juke Rockets at the club on December 11, 2015. Tim Woitowicz, a former curling club member and band member of the Juke Rockets has generously donated he and his band's talent to support our cause. We are also going to be reaching out to all our sister curling clubs within the GNCC footprint to ask for their support. The Fund Raising Committee would like to ask each member to ask their family and friends for their support. Contributions can be made through our Go Fund Me website at <http://gofundme.com/vjb36w6e>. Alternatively, contributions may be mailed to: BCC, P.O. Box 281, Belfast, ME 04915. All donations are tax deductible. Again, thank you for your support!

See you on the ice. —*Terry Fancy, Chair, BCC Fundraising Committee*

Yule Rock The Coast!



The Belfast Curling Club will be hosting the 34th USWCA Senior Women's Bonsel December 2-9, in just a few short weeks! Now that the Maine-iac 'spiel is over we can concentrate on finishing up the plans and preparations for hosting 24 teams from all over the country. There will be one Belfast team skipped by Bell Stone representing our club. I have reached out already to a number of you; the rest of you should expect some kind of request for help in some way, small or maybe more than small! (See box, below, for an important volunteer opportunity!) We will need the usual kitchen help, bar help and snack donations. Upon arrival on

Wednesday the women will be welcomed at the club at a party Wednesday evening. Everyone will be on their own for dinner Thursday night, then they'll be hosted by curlers Anita King, Donna Fancy, Mary Melton, and Sharon Goguen in their respective homes Friday night. The lobster dinner/banquet will take place Saturday night and A, B and C event finals at 9:30 Sunday morning. Come watch, greet the teams, support our club as well as the curlers from away and imagine playing in a senior bonsel yourself someday (hey, it's inevitable, at least the senior part)! —*Abbie Read*

If you need a way to get your volunteer hours in, this will interest you. . .

We need timers for the USWCA Senior Women's Bonsel in December!

You don't have to be a seasoned curler to do this. A beginner curler can time—you just need to know the very basics of curling. The timing lessons will fill in the rest. It is done by computer, and I will be there to teach and then oversee the timing (officiating) during the event. We need times for every game in every draw!!

This is an exciting and important event for the club, and we need your help to make it the success we know it will be!

I will be at the club every week on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday evenings at at 5:30 pm to start up the computers, give a small tutor session of timing, and be available for questions.

We have 54 timing slots to fill on December 3rd through the 5th. It is not hard and I need you!

Please email me if you are interested in learning about timing!! —*Thanks, Ann Kirkpatrick ack1062@yahoo.com*

College Curling is Happening Again

The college kids turned out immediately following the Maine-iac bonsel at 2:00 PM. Bowdoin's curlers were all competing in Broomstones, but UMO brought down two experienced curlers and eight brand new curlers who caught on fast and did well.

I never know exactly how many are going to show and particularly in the first few weeks. All the colleges have different schedules and constraints. We are moving, now, more to noon to 3:00 because there are a number of UMO kids who have 4:00 PM classes on Sunday. This is definitely a work in progress.

I always need help instructing on the Sundays before Christmas because there are usually new-

comers who need one-on-one time. After two times on the ice, everyone more or less knows what's going on and they curl. I do like to pull out curlers from time to time to work on individual problems they might be having, then fold them back in. All the kids want to improve, but they also just want to curl and I don't want to make this oppressive with instruction. Jen Cashin, one of the skips from UMO, would like some skipping/strategy attention, which will start this week.

Bowdoin's teams are at Rochester this weekend competing in an attempt to garner enough points to earn a berth at the nationals in March. It is a point system. A team gets a certain number of points for

playing another college team . . . 2 for a win, 1 for the loss. They also get points for participating in a bonsel and for hosting one. Bowdoin and UMO will both get points for being active in our Crash 'Spiel that will run Jan. 23 for an intense 24 hours.

Jeff Shula, Toby Atkins, Michael Overton, Tom Stoner and Dick Fischbeck all turned out last Sunday to instruct and guide. (I think I forgot someone.) I would like to get some woman guides, too. You don't have to be a great curler to teach and guide these kids. They just need a boost. It's good time on the ice for you and your volunteering helps your annual volunteer hours for the club. Let me know if you are willing to help. —*Douglas Coffin*



Scenes from the 6th Annual Maine-iac



The 2015 winners of Larry the Lobster: Yvan Verville, Nicole Verville, Robert Fortier, and Louise Gaudreault (Sherbrooke) Wendy Wiley photo



6th Annual Maine-iac 'Spiel Results

1st Event Winners

- (S) Yvan Verville – Sherbrooke
- (V) Nicole Verville – Sherbrooke
- (2) Robert Fortier – Sherbrooke
- (L) Louise Gaudreault – Sherbrooke

1st Event Runners-up

- (S) Melvin Shaw – Potomac
- (V) Courtney Shaw – Potomac
- (2) Eric Johnson – Columbus
- (L) Julia DiRuggio – Mayfield

2nd Event Winners

- (S) Steve McPherson – Sutton
- (V) Andrew Hatch – Lennoxville
- (2) Vinnie Lengacher – Lennoxville
- (L) Lorraine Cournoyer – Sutton

2nd Event Runners-up

- (S) Roger Poirier – Capital Winter Club
- (V) Kim Chapman – Capital Winter Club
- (2) Mike Steeves – Capital Winter Club
- (L) Eleanor Murray – Capital Winter Club

3rd Event Winners

- (S) Mike Kriz – Potomac
- (V) Todd Humora – Potomac
- (2) Cathy Dunn – Nutmeg
- (L) Laura Barrantes – Potomac

3rd Event Runners-up

- (S) Jane McGinn – Capital Winter Club
- (V) Abigail Giberson – Capital Winter Club
- (2) Carol Justason – Curl Moncton
- (L) Stephanie Schnare – Capital Winter Club

4th Event Winners

- (S) Pete Morelewicz – Potomac
- (V) Sandy Bemis – Chesapeake
- (2) Julie Tsamoutales – Chesapeake
- (L) Dick Bemis – Chesapeake

4th Event Runners-up

- (S) Jason Hotra – Dallas/Ft. Worth
- (V) Carolyn Hotra – Dallas/ Ft. Worth
- (2) Bryan Brgant – Sutton
- (L) John Brgant – Sutton



Michael Overton photos

Another Successful Learn to Curl

On October 31 and November 1 the Club held three Learn to Curl sessions. As always, people game off the ice with big smiles on their faces, enthused about learning this great sport. We had 33 attend the LTC sessions, which is about half the number of past LTCs. However, that allowed for a free sheet that the Bowdoin College Curling team took advantage of for practice and introduction for four new college curlers. And Bowdoin was happy to get on the ice. The next week they were going to Broomstones for a bonspiel and to New York the weekend after that!

Thank you to all the volunteers that gave valuable instruction. Jack and Ellen, Linda Anderson, Tom Stoner, Terry, Bob McHatton, Bart, Jeff Dutch, Tom and Anita King, Diana McLaughlin and Dan Marra helped on the ice. Diana also manned the all-important sign-in table.

Despite a lower turn out for the LTC, we had at least 12 new members for this half. They are:

Hanna Billington, Judith Fabian, Penny True, Mike Douglass, Matt Trembley, Ernie Cooper, Romaine Turyn, Tina Scheer, Dan Hebert, Jody Moser, Tony Gorneau, Tom Ballard and Greg King. I think there are some others that signed up after the Learn to Curl. Also returning after an absence of several years is Paul Arthur.

When you see an unfamiliar face or see someone on the ice with that deer in the headlights look, they are probably new curlers. Welcome them and give whatever assistance you can to help them out. —*Steve McLaughlin*



If you are wondering about the new TV monitors at the club—wonder no longer: they are a gift from Kaytaro Sugahara, a curling enthusiast and supporter. Mr. Sugahara, who works in New York City, hopes that the new monitors will help educate newcomers to the game and increase participation in curling. A plaque at the club acknowledges his generosity.

Many thanks also go to: Jack Comart, who secured the contribution from Mr. Sugahara, and to Owen Nelson who both supervised and did much of the the installation. Owen put in many hours of work, meeting and talking with vendors, snaking cables through the club, drilling holes in the ceiling, building, installing a shelf in the bar to hold the equipment, etc. He received help from: Sean Maguire (scurrying through the attic snaking cables), Gus Z. and Bill Pieske doing some construction work, Bob McHatton, Jack Comart and others to get the job done. Thanks also to the BCC Board and Members who also contributed to the effort with additional financial support adding equipment to the installation and paying for the installation.

Rolling Stones: News from the Road



The 34th Riverboat Classic men's bonspiel hosted at the Thistle-St. Andrews 8 sheet curling facility opened 2015-2016 curling season over the October 22-25 extended weekend. This was the 33rd consecutive "cruise" for Jeff Dutch and Bill Pieske. Many relationships were renewed and some new curling acquaintances made. Dutch skipped a team including Jim Boulrier, Paul Doody and Steve Stanford. This was Steve's 1st away invitational. Bill's team included Gus Szabronski, Steve McLaughlin and Vaughan Smith. The honor of "Honorary Riverboat Captain" was bestowed on Vaughan for the weekend. Scott Carson, Jeff Lamont, Pete Wood and Bob McHatton made the voyage again this year as did skipper Kent Clark, Mark Hall, Robb Fowler, Josh Payson, and 5th player Joel Lee. This was Joel's 1st bonspiel also and he was a "super sub" playing for US and Canadian rinks over the weekend. It has been tradition the several of the visiting teams bring home town "table fare" for post game sharing during the cruise. Once again this year Penobscot-McCrum was kind enough to provide 1 case / team of potato skins which was appreciated by the 40 teams of curlers and the Riverboat committee. —*Jeff Dutch*

Tips for Playing More Quickly

As curling season begins, below are some tips and reminders.
Good things to keep in mind regardless of how long you've been curling.



Players and Teams

- 1. Be on the ice five minutes early.** If handshakes and introductions are taken care of beforehand, the actual game can start right on time.
- 2. Don't worry about the rocks being in order in the corner.** That's right . . . who cares. Last time I checked I was easily able to find my rock whether or not it was in correct numerical order. At worst you have a 2 in 8 chance of grabbing your stone. Teams waste a lot of time putting rocks in perfect order when it really just doesn't matter. The only time you need to worry about putting the rocks in order is at the end of the game when you're leaving the sheet.
- 3. Be ready to throw when it is your turn.** The most common mistake people make that slows them down is watching their opponents' stones finish before they are ready to throw. As your opponents' rock heads off, head to the hack. You can watch the end of the play from a ready position.
- 4. Look up when it's your turn.** Your skip, if he is playing quickly, should be ready to signal your next shot, and he shouldn't have to wait for you to finish your housekeeping.
- 5. Have a pre-shot routine.** Don't lose time due to being sloppy in getting your rock into position and getting into the hack. Many players will stand up and down more than they need to, clean the rock more than once, twirl, fidget, adjust, etc., and this time adds up. If you have a set, efficient routine, you will be able to play faster, and you'll make more shots, too!
- 6. Manage your equipment.** Have a routine for keeping your gripper, slider, throwing device, broom, etc., in the right place at the right time. It slows the game to have to shuttle stuff from one end of the sheet to the other.
- 7. Limit your questions and conversations about strategy until after the game.** You should be clear on the shot you are being asked to throw and you can (quickly) ask your vice or skip for clarification or more information when it is your turn. But if you have a more complicated question (why am I throwing this? is this the right call?), save it for the bar afterwards.
- 8. If you're a lead, let your teammates clear the stones after an end.** You should be getting ready to start the next end with your turn.
- 9. If you're a vice, don't slow down play to hang the score.** There will be a natural time to hang the score from the previous end that shouldn't affect the flow of play.

Skips

- 1. Plan your strategy in advance.** Don't wait for your opponents' rock to finish before considering alternatives. There are only a few things that can happen after your opponents stone. Start formulating responses as your opponent is playing.
- 2. Bank time.** If you play very quickly in most ends, you will have extra time to discuss those (few) really complicated situations when they arise.
- 3. Develop a crisp communication system, so that you can call a shot quickly.** You shouldn't have to walk all over the house to point out Plan A, Plan B, . . . Plan Z. Your third can explain any nuances to the thrower if appropriate as they are getting ready to throw.
- 4. Let your opponent re-rack removed rocks when it is your turn to play.** You can shove a removed rock gently back towards its right place as you go to make your call, but leave the detailed housekeeping for when it's not your turn.
- 5. Manage your equipment.** Have a routine for keeping your gripper and/or sliding device in the right place at the right time.
- 6. Limit team-wide discussions.** If it's the last end, the game is on the line, and you have banked time, sure, have a team conference. But generally, any conversations should be brief and between the skip and thrower or the skip and the vice. —*Mary Melton*

Some Links to Learn to Curl Tips:

READING THE SCORE BOARD

www.youtube.com/watch?v=9J19zCnY5B0

GRIP AND RELEASE

www.youtube.com/watch?v=LB7xtFLPP3c&sns=fb

BALANCE

www.youtube.com/watch?v=kpWAooMiBlQ

SWEEPING

www.youtube.com/watch?v=zC0gzcp1jGM

HOW TO SCORE

www.youtube.com/watch?v=b_GeFv-1KMQ

SET UP

www.youtube.com/watch?v=zxyfCam5fTQ

PULL BACK

www.youtube.com/watch?v=yZ-pi25-V38

LESSONS

www.youtube.com/watch?v=6axpWJ_j850

Off the Ice

Please contact Diana Hauser at dianah@uninets.net or (207) 948-2235 in order to include any information and/or announcements in the next newsletter. Births; Deaths; Work-related promotions, citations or awards; Curling-related citations or awards; trips; hobbies/interests; any interesting personal information. It's a great way to get to know your fellow club members 'off the ice.'

● Congratulations to Joe and Erin on the birth of their baby boy, Charles Herbig Baiungo, on October 1, 2015.

● Artist extraordinaire, Karen MacDonald, has a beautiful exhibit of her work at the Unity College Center for the Performing Arts. The exhibit is called "reckoning" and is displayed in the Leonard R. Craig Gallery at the Arts Center in Unity.

● New baby, Rory Hannah, born September 1, 2015. Proud grandparents are Paul & Diana Hauser.

● Robert (Bob) Stein, age 86, passed away September 30, 2015. Bob was a very smart, interesting man and a great curler. He was a member of the Belfast Curling Club for many years. *see the *Bangor Daily News* for his obituary

Buy / Sell / Swap

Shetland fleeces for sale—shades of brown, gray & black—washed—ready for felting or spinning. Contact Diana at dianah@uninets.net

Will knit or sew for money! Potholders (\$5.00), and simple hats and scarves. Patchwork quilts and throws, crib quilts. Contact Diana at dianah@uninets.net

Did you know that Christine Deeney is a painter specializing in pet portraits? Check out her website: christinesartwork.simdif.com

Many thanks to all the contributors to this issue of the newsletter. For article ideas and submissions, and items for Buy/Sell/Swap, please email me at faithhague@gmail.com. Good curling!

Bartending Certification

Reminder! All persons going behind the bar to serve alcohol must become certified by the state to do so. It's an easy process to complete. The State of Maine has an online Alcohol Seller & Server Training that our insurance company recommends, and we all need to be in compliance to satisfy the insurance company. The bar is a very important part of our club, and we need compliant servers behind the bar during League nights and Bonspiels. Why not do this now, just as our season is beginning?

Go to <https://www1.maine.gov/cgi-bin/online/trainsellserve/main.cgi> and follow the instructions. The course costs only \$18.00, which is for 3 years (only \$6.00/year). You will need to log on and create a password (please remember to write it down) and plan on allowing at least 1 hour to complete the course. After reading the information, you will be asked to take a test on what you read. After completion, you'll be issued a Certificate of Completion. Please print a copy to be kept in the bar.

Fantastic Four!

What's your superpower?



Curling has started in Belfast! And that means January is just around the corner. Which means the Womens Pinetree Bonspiel will be here sooner than we think: January 15–17. Teams from away and Belfast are submitting their registrations forms for "Fantastic Four—What's YOUR Super Power?"

The committee of Terri Kuzell, Jean Brown, Mary Melton, Diana Hauser, Ellen Smith, Faith Hague, and Linda Anderson are all working on the details of Delicious Dining Delights, Decorations and Entertainment, Raffle Baskets and Curling Prizes, the Curling Draw, etc. If you would like to volunteer to help, please email Linda Anderson and we will find a job for you! —Linda Anderson